

NEW SOUTH WALES.

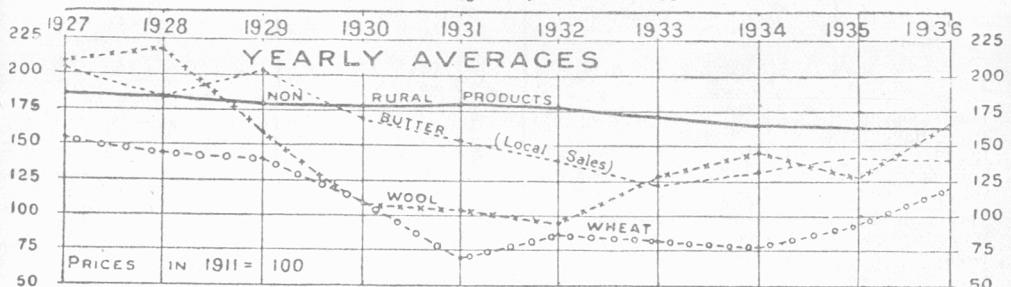
MONTHLY SUMMARY OF BUSINESS STATISTICS.

No. 72. APRIL 27, 1937.

Issued by T. Waites, O.B.E., Government Statistician.

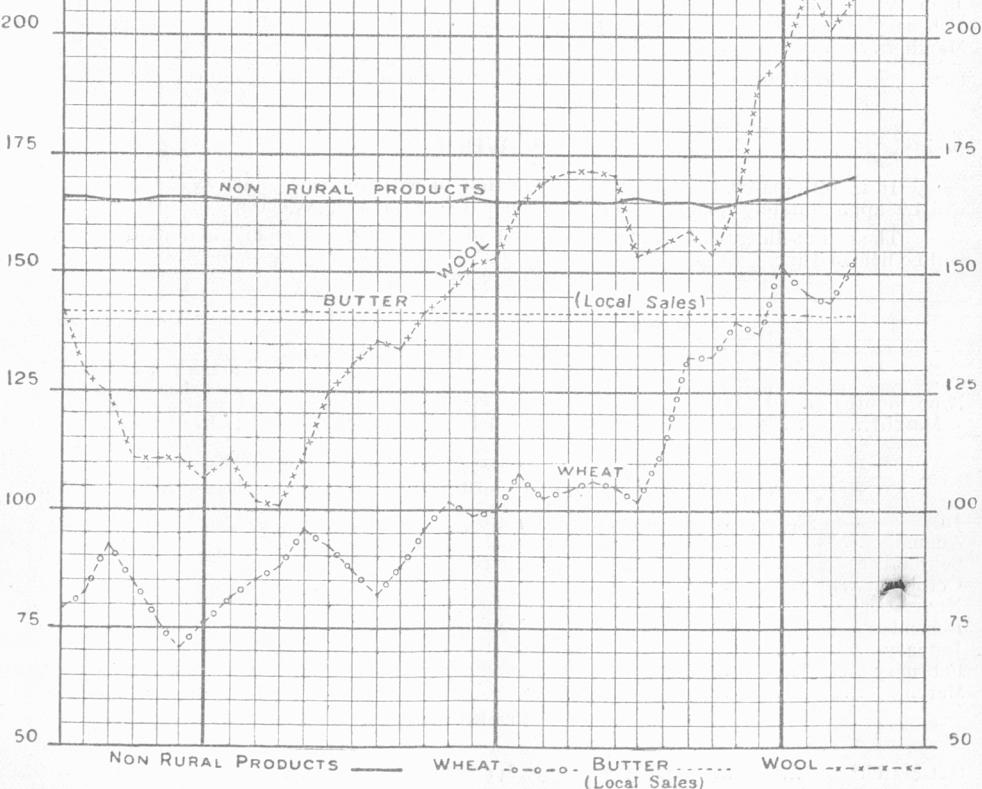
INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES (SYDNEY).

Average for year 1911 = 100.



INDEX 1934 1935 1936 1937 INDEX
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MONTHLY AVERAGES



All prices are in Australian currency. The indexes for recent months are shown in table 25 on page 11 of this summary. The footnotes to that table apply also to this graph.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.

(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

| Month. | Sheep Districts. | | | | | Wheat Districts. | | | | Dairying Districts (Coastal only). | | | | |
|-----------|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | N. | C. | S. | W. | T. | N. | C. | S. | T. | N. | C. | S. | T. | |
| 1936. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | ... | 91 | 167 | 197 | 325 | 173 | 92 | 152 | 217 | 184 | 76 | 114 | 88 | 88 |
| February | ... | 93 | 205 | 195 | 118 | 161 | 117 | 262 | 203 | 207 | 57 | 110 | 127 | 79 |
| March | ... | 122 | 187 | 118 | 183 | 146 | 130 | 173 | 113 | 131 | 119 | 125 | 180 | 128 |
| April | ... | 41 | 36 | 93 | 22 | 55 | 54 | 36 | 84 | 67 | 50 | 67 | 79 | 58 |
| May | ... | 100 | 64 | 34 | 111 | 69 | 84 | 62 | 34 | 48 | 120 | 57 | 43 | 94 |
| June | ... | 41 | 65 | 142 | 70 | 84 | 39 | 72 | 136 | 107 | 41 | 46 | 87 | 48 |
| July | ... | 167 | 186 | 229 | 213 | 197 | 179 | 188 | 214 | 203 | 42 | 35 | 67 | 43 |
| August | ... | 92 | 97 | 98 | 116 | 98 | 118 | 101 | 90 | 96 | 36 | 32 | 92 | 42 |
| September | ... | 104 | 52 | 41 | 32 | 61 | 110 | 52 | 41 | 53 | 93 | 57 | 43 | 77 |
| October | ... | 27 | 43 | 55 | 74 | 46 | 18 | 50 | 61 | 52 | 61 | 54 | 30 | 55 |
| November | ... | 13 | 7 | 23 | 10 | 14 | 10 | 7 | 19 | 15 | 22 | 16 | 44 | 23 |
| December | ... | 125 | 193 | 234 | 310 | 200 | 131 | 189 | 243 | 215 | 167 | 193 | 209 | 179 |
| 1937. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | ... | 88 | 89 | 180 | 123 | 122 | 98 | 97 | 190 | 154 | 76 | 146 | 112 | 99 |
| February | ... | 86 | 94 | 15 | 136 | 70 | 82 | 82 | 9 | 37 | 183 | 69 | 66 | 139 |
| March | ... | 196 | 101 | 100 | 68 | 124 | 159 | 110 | 84 | 105 | 208 | 176 | 200 | 199 |

N.—Northern; S.—Southern; C.—Central; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

2. WOOL.

It is anticipated that the total production of wool in New South Wales for 1936–1937 will be approximately 494,000,000 lb., as compared with 472,585,000 lb. in 1935–36.

The main selling season in Sydney closed on 22nd April. The final auctions of the season will be held in June.

SYDNEY WOOL SALES.

| Period. | 1934-35. | 1935-36. | 1936-37. | Sales. | | 1934-35. | 1935-36. | 1936-37. |
|--------------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|----------|
| | | | | Number of Bales Sold. | Amount Realised for Wool Sold. | | | |
| Nine months ended 31st March*... | ... | 948,399 | 1,091,195 | 1,052,856 | 11,778,756 | 19,224,531 | 21,977,192 | |
| Number of Bales Received into Store. | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | During Month. | | Total for Season to end of Month. | | |
| July | ... | 50,649 | 50,740 | 38,283 | 50,649 | 50,740 | 38,283 | |
| August | ... | 168,244 | 185,192 | 162,355 | 218,893 | 235,932 | 200,638 | |
| September | ... | 241,781 | 257,809 | 320,551 | 460,674 | 493,741 | 521,189 | |
| October | ... | 304,447 | 288,793 | 311,033 | 765,121 | 782,534 | 832,222 | |
| November | ... | 195,596 | 193,805 | 179,822 | 960,717 | 976,339 | 1,012,044 | |
| December | ... | 73,448 | 57,042 | 47,205 | 1,034,165 | 1,033,381 | 1,059,249 | |
| January | ... | 24,293 | 22,032 | 20,276 | 1,058,458 | 1,055,413 | 1,085,525 | |
| February | ... | 23,385 | 26,274 | 27,128 | 1,081,843 | 1,081,687 | 1,112,053 | |
| March | ... | 27,727 | 29,738 | 33,357 | 1,109,570 | 1,111,425 | 1,146,010 | |
| Number of Bales in Store Unsold. | | | | | | | | |
| 31st March* | ... | 220,372 | 30,841 | 119,573 | ... | ... | ... | |

* Including carry-over from previous season.

The course of wool prices is shown in Table 25.

3. WHEAT.

The area sown with wheat for 1936-37, as shown by returns of wheatgrowers in December, 1936, was 4,257,500 acres, including 3,961,680 acres for grain. The crop for grain in 1936-37 was estimated at 54,837,000 bushels. The carry-over of wheat and flour in stock in New South Wales at 30th November, 1936, was 2,719,000 bushels (expressed as bushels of wheat), compared with 5,980,000 bushels and 13,302,000 bushels at the corresponding dates of 1935 and 1934 respectively.

WHEAT AND FLOUR EXPORTED OVERSEA FROM NEW SOUTH WALES (DIRECT).

| Month. | 1934-35. | 1935-36. | 1936-37. | 1934-35. | 1935-36. | 1936-37. |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Bushels of Wheat. | | | | | | |
| December | 682,105 | 1,829,120 | 2,282,212 | 17,497 | 24,507 | 20,783 |
| January | 1,404,068 | 1,643,368 | 3,165,230 | 31,301 | 11,479 | 16,475 |
| February | 60,020 | 4,525,927 | 2,499,777 | 13,217 | 14,906 | 18,745 |
| March | 130,273 | 3,759,267 | 2,596,730 | 26,402 | 15,413 | 15,416 |

WHEAT AND FLOUR.

Bushels of Wheat (Equivalent).

Value £.

| Month... | 1934-35. | 1935-36. | 1936-37. | 1934-35. | 1935-36. | 1936-37. |
|-------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| December... | 1,515,281 | 2,996,127 | 3,271,895 | 204,313 | 508,485 | 789,356 |
| January ... | 2,894,573 | 2,189,997 | 3,949,754 | 370,215 | 398,124 | 1,029,694 |
| February ... | 680,389 | 5,235,722 | 3,392,391 | 91,675 | 970,841 | 883,785 |
| March ... | 1,387,516 | 4,493,198 | 3,330,825 | 203,009 | 829,544 | 870,738 |
| Total (four months) ... | 6,486,759 | 14,915,044 | 13,944,865 | 869,212 | 2,706,994 | 3,573,573 |

The course of wheat prices is shown in Table 25.

4. BUTTER.

The production of butter in the eight months ended 28th February, 1937, was sixteen per cent. less than in the similar period last season.

| Month. | Output of Butter (New South Wales factories). | | Butter exported oversea (New South Wales). | | | |
|---------------|--|--------|---|-------|---------|---------|
| | 1935. | 1936. | 1935. | 1936. | 1935. | 1936. |
| Thousand lb. | | | | | | |
| July ... | 4,575 | 4,990 | 281 | 981 | 12,000 | 53,467 |
| August ... | 4,853 | 5,569 | 225 | 310 | 11,213 | 18,526 |
| September ... | 6,768 | 6,841 | 363 | 450 | 19,182 | 25,087 |
| October ... | 10,803 | 9,206 | 2,030 | 1,194 | 128,277 | 61,866 |
| November ... | 12,970 | 8,336 | 5,022 | 1,582 | 274,383 | 82,103 |
| December ... | 13,355 | 7,917 | 3,491 | 920 | 169,955 | 49,526 |
| | 1936 | 1937 | 1936 | 1937 | 1936 | 1937 |
| January ... | 14,411 | 13,263 | 4,522 | 1,282 | 222,216 | 63,804 |
| February ... | 13,204 | 11,881 | 4,714 | 3,071 | 229,777 | 134,100 |
| March ... | 13,324 | ... | 5,853 | 4,210 | 266,518 | 198,575 |

The course of local butter prices is shown in Table 25. Export sales parity (Sydney) on 15th April, 1937, was 118s. per cwt. compared with 95s. per cwt. a year previously.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

5. COAL.

The quantity of coal raised in 1936 was 9,199,000 tons, compared with 8,699,000 tons in 1935 and 7,873,000 tons in 1934.

| Month. | Coal Hauled by Government Railways.‡ | | | Coal Exported from New South Wales.† | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| | 1935. | 1936. | 1937. | 1935. | 1936. | 1937. |
| | tons. | tons. | tons. | tons. | tons. | tons. |
| Year ended 31st. Dec.... | 6,535,773 | 6,862,036 | | 2,850,870 | 3,128,666 | |
| January ... | 513,500 | 448,980 | 563,457 | 224,565 | 187,857 | 235,766 |
| February ... | 545,271 | 537,622 | 545,155 | 268,895 | 252,883 | 223,235 |
| March ... | 573,770 | 584,063 | 590,000* | 272,501 | 277,505 | 260,121 |
| Total (January-March)... | 1,632,541 | 1,570,665 | 1,698,612* | 765,961 | 718,245 | 719,122 |

* Approximate. † Cargo and bunker, Oversea and interstate. ‡ Excludes coal used by the Railway Department and coal shipped or used in New South Wales without being hauled over Government railways.

6. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Tabulations embracing monthly returns from 42 large factories show the following results which afford some indication of trends in the manufacturing industry:—

| Month. | Factory Sales. | | | | Employees. | | | | Weekly Salaries and Wages. | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-------|-------|-------|------------|-------|-------|-------|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 1934. | 1935. | 1936. | 1937. | 1934. | 1935. | 1936. | 1937. | 1934. | 1935. | 1936. | 1937. |
| Thousand £. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January ... | 2,199 | 2,284 | 2,623 | 2,616 | 163* | 184 | 202 | 212 | 562* | 639 | 749 | 786 |
| February ... | 2,326 | 2,468 | 2,656 | 2,814 | 173 | 191 | 206 | 221 | 598 | 692 | 766 | 839 |
| March ... | 2,434 | 2,615 | 2,838 | | 175 | 194 | 208 | | 612 | 699 | 775 | |
| April ... | 2,097 | 2,427 | 2,683 | | 177 | 193 | 206 | | 615 | 696 | 734 | |
| May ... | 2,394 | 2,643 | 2,650 | | 178 | 194 | 206 | | 628 | 702 | 756 | |
| June ... | 2,142 | 2,243 | 2,504 | | 178 | 196 | 205 | | 622 | 706 | 764 | |
| July ... | 2,234 | 2,511 | 2,827 | | 179 | 199 | 211 | | 634 | 712 | 776 | |
| August ... | 2,364 | 2,576 | 2,655 | | 182 | 200 | 214 | | 646 | 725 | 793 | |
| September ... | 2,259 | 2,490 | 2,761 | | 183 | 203 | 215 | | 651 | 736 | 790 | |
| October ... | 2,461 | 2,817 | 2,985 | | 188 | 206 | 219 | | 670 | 757 | 809 | |
| November ... | 2,620 | 2,908 | 3,022 | | 188 | 207 | 219 | | 675 | 760 | 806 | |
| December ... | 2,502 | 2,678 | 3,070 | | 186 | 203 | 216 | | 689 | 771 | 822 | |
| Average (January - February) ... | 2,262 | 2,376 | 2,640 | 2,715 | 168 | 188 | 204 | 216 | 580 | 666 | 758 | 812 |

See also Table 22. * Decrease due to a dispute in the Textile Industry.

NOTE—Monthly particulars since January, 1930, were published in earlier issues of this Summary.

7. BUILDING INDUSTRY.

Value of permits to erect new buildings and additions (compiled from returns of Municipal and Shire Councils). Government buildings are excluded:—

| Year. | Month of March. | | | | December Quarter. | | | |
|----------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------|------------------------------|-----|
| | Sydney and Suburbs. | City of Sydney. | Suburbs of Sydney. | | Country Municipalities. | | Total, New South Wales.* | |
| | | | Total New Buildings and Additions. | New Buildings and Additions. | New Buildings. | | New Buildings and Additions. | |
| | | | | | No. | Value. | | |
| 1934 ... | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| 1934 ... | 423,908 | 77,340 | 315 | 285,184 | 715 | 436,428 | 2,350,971 | |
| 1935 ... | 908,022 | 179,521 | 351 | 498,660 | 1,048 | 705,924 | 3,057,804 | |
| 1936 ... | 620,429 | 79,572 | 373 | 456,564 | 1,006 | 653,517 | 3,478,544 | |
| 1937 ... | 720,463 | 63,144 | 410 | 540,706 | ... | ... | ... | ... |

* Including seven Shires adjoining Metropolitan Area. All other Shires are excluded, as returns are not supplied.

Figures as to permits to erect new buildings or additions show in advance the trend in the building industry. More detailed information extending over a number of years is shown on pages 21 to 24 of the "New South Wales Statistical Bulletin" for December Quarter, 1936.

SECTION B.—TRADE.

8. VALUE OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.*

To and from New South Wales direct Oversea.

| Year. | Australian Currency Values. | | | | British Currency Values. | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|----------|
| | Month of March. | | Nine Months ended 31st March. | | Month of March. | | Nine Months ended 31st March. | |
| | Imports. | Exports. | Imports. | Exports. | Imports. | Exports. | Imports. | Exports. |
| Thousand £ A. | | | | | | | | |
| 1935 | 3,963 | 2,706 | 29,730 | 25,746 | 3,164 | 2,160 | 23,736 | 20,556 |
| 1936 | 3,799 | 5,253 | 32,824 | 35,920 | 3,033 | 4,194 | 26,207 | 28,678 |
| 1937 | † | 5,433 | † | 39,365 | † | 4,337 | † | 31,430 |

* Excluding bullion and specie.

† Not available.

The values of imports represent the cost f.o.b. port of export plus 10 per cent., and are recorded in English currency. The values of exports are the values in the principal markets of New South Wales, and are recorded in Australian currency. The respective equivalent values in Australian and British currencies shown above are estimated.

9. WHOLESALE TRADE.

Approximate Amount of Sales (N.S.W.) by Traders Registered under Sales Tax Acts.

| Month. | 1932. | 1933. | 1934. | 1935. | 1936. | 1937. | |
|---------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Total Taxable and Exempt Goods. |
| January ... | 9.89 | 9.52 | 9.87 | 4.69 | 10.85 | 4.93 | 11.27 |
| February ... | 9.52 | 9.98 | 10.37 | 4.87 | 10.82 | 5.61 | 12.72 |
| March ... | 9.55 | 10.92 | 10.92 | 5.83 | 12.39 | 6.24 | 13.11 |
| April ... | 10.17 | 10.67 | 11.25 | 5.60 | 12.00 | 6.28 | 13.45 |
| May ... | 10.17 | 11.37 | 11.64 | 5.94 | 13.14 | 6.18 | 13.44 |
| June ... | 9.61 | 10.03 | 10.91 | 5.12 | 11.60 | 5.99 | 13.21 |
| July ... | 10.09 | 10.33 | 11.46 | 5.31 | 12.15 | 6.40 | 14.17 |
| August ... | 10.22 | 11.23 | * 11.40 | 6.34 | 13.54 | 6.02 | 13.13 |
| September ... | * 11.10 | 11.51 | 12.25 | 6.19 | 12.84 | 6.57 | 13.77 |
| October ... | 11.13 | 11.30 | 12.47 | 6.71 | 14.70 | * 6.42 | 15.10 |
| November ... | 11.05 | * 11.42 | 11.99 | * 6.41 | 13.20 | 6.18 | 14.52 |
| December ... | 11.76 | 11.81 | 12.69 | 6.44 | 13.98 | 6.04 | 13.98 |

* See note below.

Numerous commodities were exempted from tax as from 1st September, 1932, 26th October, 1933, 1st August, 1934, 25th October, 1935, and 26th September, 1936. Consequently, many traders dealing exclusively in exempt goods ceased to supply returns and the proportion of wholesale trade covered by the records has been progressively reduced. The figures for the six periods delineated above cannot be compared without allowance for this fact.

10. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from the principal Sydney stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for months shown below compared with corresponding months of previous year:—

| Month. | Number of Business Days in Month. | | Net Sales (Value). | Value of Stock. | Wages and Salaries Paid. | Number of Employees. | Three Monthly Moving Average ended month shown. | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| | Previous Year. | Current Year. | | | | | Net Sales (Value). | Wages and Salaries Paid. |
| Percentage increase + or decrease — | | | | | | | | |
| 1936. | | | | | | | | |
| April ... | 23 | 23 | + | 7.1 | + | 4.7 | + | 5.8 |
| May ... | 26 | 26 | — | 0.7 | + | 5.9 | + | 2.0 |
| June ... | 24 | 25 | + | 15.4 | + | 5.1 | + | 12.7 |
| July* ... | 27 | 27 | + | 11.6 | + | 1.8 | + | 9.9 |
| August* ... | 27 | 26 | — | 2.3 | + | 6.4 | + | 3.7 |
| September ... | 25 | 26 | + | 9.1 | + | 6.6 | + | 7.2 |
| October* ... | 26 | 26 | + | 6.9 | + | 6.8 | + | 5.1 |
| November* ... | 26 | 25 | — | 3.7 | + | 6.9 | + | 3.2 |
| December* ... | 24 | 24 | + | 9.2 | + | 5.5 | + | 7.8 |
| 1937. | | | | | | | | |
| January* ... | 25 | 24 | + | 1.5 | + | 5.6 | + | 1.2 |
| February ... | 25 | 23 | + | 3.7 | + | 4.9 | + | 6.9 |
| | | | | | | | — | 0.5 |
| | | | | | | | + | 3.1 |
| | | | | | | | + | 4.2 |
| | | | | | | | + | 5.5 |

* July, 1936, August, 1935, October, 1936, November, 1935, December, 1936, and January, 1936, included five late shopping nights.

SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

11. RAILWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were:—

| | Month of February. | | | Eight Months ended 28th February. | | |
|----------|--------------------|--------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| | Gross Revenue. | Working Expenses.* | Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses. | Gross Revenue. | Working Expenses.* | Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses. |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| 1935 ... | 1,206,708 | 900,413 | 306,295 | 10,741,452 | 7,192,049 | 3,549,403 |
| 1936 ... | 1,279,257 | 934,259 | 344,998 | 11,410,025 | 7,586,800 | 3,823,225 |
| 1937 ... | 1,353,400 | 902,450 | 390,950 | 11,863,864 | 7,849,779 | 4,014,085 |

* Interest and Exchange on loan capital are not included as working expenses.

The amount of interest chargeable against the railways in 1935-36 was £5,700,000, exclusive of £903,773 exchange, etc.

| | Month of February. | | Eight Months ended 28th February. | |
|----------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| | Net Goods Ton-mileage.* | Passenger Journeys. | Net Goods Ton-mileage.* | Passenger Journeys. |
| | thousands. | thousands. | thousands. | thousands. |
| 1935 ... | 114,702 | 12,307 | 1,049,020 | 105,066 |
| 1936 ... | 124,992 | 13,165 | 1,173,693 | 111,952 |
| 1937 ... | 154,118 | 13,697 | 1,203,934 | 116,540 |

* Goods (including wayleave) and livestock. Ton-mileage represents the weight times the distance (miles) it was carried.

12. TRAMWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES TRAMWAYS.

| | Sydney and Suburbs. | | | Newcastle and Suburbs. | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|--|------------------------|------------------------|--|---------------------|
| | Earnings. | Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.* | Passengers Carried. †† | Earnings. | Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.* | Passengers Carried. |
| | £ | £ | †† | £ | £ | †† |
| Month of March— | | | | | | |
| 1935 ... | 270,637 | 81,664 | 24,460,543 | 18,069 | 5,408 | 1,714,003 |
| 1936 ... | 271,905 | 58,806 | 24,504,503 | 18,456 | 3,085 | 1,730,474 |
| 1937 ... | 287,620 | 73,496 | 26,012,287 | 17,434 | 3,874 | 1,609,608 |
| Nine Months ended 31st March— | | | | | | |
| 1935 ... | 2,326,892 | 528,629 | 208,531,987 | 162,249 | 41,849 | 14,967,690 |
| 1936 ... | 2,377,697 | 524,016 | 212,008,390 | 168,295 | 37,821 | 15,340,411 |
| 1937 ... | 2,418,611 | 540,416 | 215,567,499 | 164,543 | 40,049 | 15,453,663 |

* Sinking Fund, Interest on Loan Capital, Exchange and Depreciation are not included as working expenses. The amount of interest chargeable against the tramways in 1935-36 was £352,000, exclusive of £49,310 exchange and £26,609 Sinking Fund.

†† Excludes Sydney Harbour Bridge passengers whose journey did not extend beyond the Bridge Section.

Note.—The excess of earnings over working expenses for Sydney and Newcastle Systems, amounted in February, 1937 to £50,355 and £4,138 respectively.

13. MOTOR VEHICLES.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.) AS AT VARIOUS DATES.
 (Including Government Vehicles.)

| Class. | 31st March, 1935. | 1936. | | | | 1937. | |
|------------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | | 31st March. | 30th June. | 30th September. | 31st December. | 28th February. | 31st March. |
| Cars | 163,116 | 174,896 | 177,289 | 179,159 | 183,406 | 185,317 | 186,647 |
| Lorries and Vans | 53,701 | 60,407 | 62,149 | 64,244 | 67,257 | 68,034 | 68,407 |
| Cycles ... | 22,839 | 23,083 | 23,048 | 23,061 | 23,418 | 23,421 | 23,486 |
| Omnibuses ... | 493 | 523 | 528 | 546 | 567 | 578 | 592 |
| Cabs | 1,050 | 1,086 | 1,113 | 1,139 | 1,155 | 1,157 | 1,159 |
| Traders' Plates | 673 | 823 | 851 | 875 | 909 | 923 | 939 |
| Total ... | 241,872 | 260,878 | 264,978 | 269,024 | 276,712 | 279,430 | 281,290 |

NOTE.—There were 251,329 vehicles (excluding Government) registered at 31st March, 1930.

Average Weekly Number of New Vehicles Registered.*

* Represents average for four or five weeks ended first week in succeeding month until December, 1933; subsequent periods relate to the average over the exact calendar month. The term "new" denotes that the vehicle was not previously registered in N.S.W.

14. WIRELESS LICENSES.

BROADCAST LISTENERS' LICENSES IN FORCE IN N.S.W.

(Excluding Experimental Licenses.)

| End of Month. | 1931. | 1932. | 1933. | 1934. | 1935. | 1936. | 1937. |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | No. |
| January | 118,507 | 127,462 | 162,813 | 201,206 | 265,396 | 296,482 | 342,155 |
| February | 118,720 | 130,591 | 164,960 | 204,149 | 268,904 | 299,715 | 343,407 |
| March | 119,398 | 132,583 | 168,695 | 207,503 | 271,848 | 304,954 | 345,056 |
| September | 120,423 | 150,999 | 188,984 | 251,486 | 285,105 | 330,902 | |
| October | 121,768 | 152,681 | 192,557 | 255,632 | 287,860 | 336,091 | |
| November | 123,091 | 157,184 | 195,092 | 259,158 | 291,378 | 338,106 | |
| December | 125,159 | 159,634 | 197,441 | 262,500 | 293,686 | 340,829 | |

SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

15. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (N.S.W.).

| Date. | Amount of Deposits. | Date. | Amount of Deposits. | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | | 1935. | 1936. | 1937. |
| 1929—June 30 | £ 85,727,514† | January 31 | £ 76,487,194* | £ 78,925,356* | £ 79,740,080* |
| 1930—June 30 | 82,465,430† | February 28 | 76,534,581* | 79,191,335* | 79,837,907* |
| 1931—June 30 | 69,810,760† | March 31 | 76,650,111 | 79,116,303 | 79,769,722* |
| 1932—June 30... | 71,647,869† | April 30 | 76,661,301* | 78,914,281* | |
| 1933—March 31 | 71,253,452 | May 31 | 76,769,470* | 78,909,060* | |
| June 30 | 72,307,685† | June 30 | 77,906,402† | 79,999,948† | |
| September 30 | 72,357,694 | July 31 | 78,111,298* | 79,736,208* | |
| December 31 | 72,503,848 | August 31 | 78,316,954* | 79,789,959* | |
| 1934—March 31 | 73,958,642 | September 30 | 78,533,317 | 79,773,002 | |
| June 30 ... | 75,714,070† | October 31 | 78,800,554* | 79,955,145* | |
| September 30 | 76,119,428 | November 30 | 78,888,557* | 79,955,781* | |
| December 31 | 76,167,309 | December 31 | 78,533,822 | 79,467,023 | |

* Approximate.

[†] Includes accrued interest.

16. TRADING BANKS—ADVANCES AND DEPOSITS (N.S.W.).

(including Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and including Government Business).

| March Quarter. | Deposits.* | Advances, etc., and Government Securities. | Excess of Advances, Securities, etc., over Deposits. |
|------------------|------------|--|--|
| | thousand £ | thousand £ | thousand £ |
| 1935 | 126,483 | 147,655 | 21,172 |
| 1936 | 125,374 | 149,773 | 24,399 |
| 1937 | 137,814 | 160,676 | 22,862 |

* Excluding stock issued by Rural Bank.

17. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

| March Quarter. | Deposits. | | | Advances, etc. | Excess of Advances over Deposits. |
|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Bearing Interest (Fixed). | Not Bearing Interest (Current). | Total. | | |
| 1935 ... | thousand £ | thousand £ | thousand £ | thousand £ | thousand £ |
| 1935 ... | 59,091 | 43,435 | 102,526 | 96,745 | (-) 5,781 |
| 1936 ... | 55,665 | 46,874 | 102,539 | 101,900 | (-) 639 |
| 1937 ... | 58,984 | 49,438 | 108,422 | 104,341 | (-) 4,081 |

(-) Denotes an excess of Deposits over Advances.

18. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

| Month. | 1931. | 1932. | 1933. | 1934. | 1935. | 1936. | 1937. | 1931. | 1932. | 1933. | 1934. | 1935. | 1936. | 1937. |
|---------------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Amount—Million £ | | | | | | | Index Numbers. | | | | | | |
| January ... | 67.4 | 46.7 | 49.2 | 59.5 | 56.9 | 66.4 | 76.7 | 82 | 63 | 68 | 78 | 75 | 89 | 101 |
| February ... | 63.8 | 47.3 | 47.7 | 59.3 | 59.7 | 69.2 | 77.4 | 82 | 62 | 66 | 77 | 75 | 86 | 101 |
| March ... | 69.9 | 42.7 | 53.3 | 58.8 | 57.7 | 69.9 | 77.2 | 81 | * | 63 | 75 | 74 | 85 | 98 |
| April ... | 62.4 | 43.5 | 44.4 | 52.8 | 61.3 | 63.5 | | 82 | * | 63 | 74 | 78 | 87 | |
| May ... | 54.0 | 46.1 | 58.9 | 61.7 | 64.9 | 68.4 | | 77 | * | 67 | 74 | 79 | 86 | |
| June ... | 57.1 | 51.8 | 52.4 | 72.1 | 73.7 | 69.5 | | 75 | 66 | 68 | 78 | 86 | 87 | |
| July ... | 48.9 | 46.8 | 49.7 | 54.8 | 61.2 | 65.1 | | 66 | 62 | 68 | 76 | 83 | 85 | |
| August ... | 45.5 | 46.0 | 48.5 | 47.8 | 59.6 | 61.9 | | 65 | 64 | 66 | 73 | 84 | 86 | |
| September ... | 54.6 | 51.3 | 55.6 | 61.7 | 62.5 | 68.1 | | 64 | 65 | 69 | 73 | 82 | 87 | |
| October ... | 56.0 | 53.5 | 55.4 | 63.7 | 72.2 | 76.6 | | 65 | 66 | 70 | 76 | 85 | 91 | |
| November ... | 50.6 | 55.3 | 63.9 | 63.2 | 75.1 | 79.7 | | 66 | 68 | 74 | 80 | 89 | 96 | |
| December ... | 52.9 | 57.7 | 62.4 | 60.7 | 71.2 | 84.3 | | 64 | 69 | 74 | 77 | 90 | 99 | |
| Year ... | 1,683.1 | 588.7 | 641.4 | 716.1 | 776.0 | 842.6 | | 72 | 65 | 68 | 76 | 82 | 89 | |

* State Government banking transactions suspended. Index not ascertainable. [†]Exclusive of certain abnormal Government transactions.

The index may be regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the volume of business transactions settled by cheques provided it is considered in conjunction with changes in price levels. It represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926-1930. This average is represented by 100 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is, the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

The index is adjusted to eliminate the effects of Treasury Bill and other special transactions on behalf of Governments and the effects of bank amalgamations. No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels. The amounts of clearings shown are the recorded totals less Treasury Bill transactions only.

19. INTEREST RATES IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

| Period. | First Mortgages Registered. Proportion of Total Amount for which Rates are disclosed. | | | | | Australian Consolidated Loans. Interest yield (including Redemption) on all Securities Repayable:— | | | | |
|------------------------|---|------------|-----------|-----------|---------|--|----------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| | Rate of Interest per cent per annum.* | | | | | | | | | |
| | 4½ or under. | Over 4½-5. | Over 5-6. | Over 6-7. | Over 7. | Over 5 to 10 Years. | Over 10 to 15 Years. | Over 15 Years. | Over 5 Years. (over all Rate.) | |
| Aug. to Dec., 1933 ... | 14 | 26 | 42 | 13 | 5 | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | |
| Jan. to June, 1934 ... | 26 | 34 | 29 | 8 | 3 | 3 12 6 | 3 14 5 | 3 13 0 | 3 13 0 | |
| July to Dec., 1934 ... | 30 | 40 | 21 | 7 | 2 | 3 6 2 | 3 7 6 | 3 11 0 | 3 8 10 | |
| Jan. to June, 1935 ... | 46 | 33 | 15 | 4 | 2 | 3 2 6 | 3 3 3 | 3 7 5 | 3 4 8 | |
| July to Dec., 1935 ... | 46 | 28 | 21 | 3 | 2 | 3 5 8 | 3 6 8 | 3 11 4 | 3 7 10 | |
| Jan. to June, 1936 ... | 45 | 30 | 20 | 4 | 1 | 3 13 5 | 3 13 6 | 3 16 3 | 3 14 4 | |
| 1936—July ... | 33 | 45 | 18 | 2 | 2 | 3 17 | 3 18 4 | 3 19 2 | 3 18 4 | |
| August ... | 48 | 27 | 17 | 4 | 4 | 3 18 0 | 3 19 0 | 3 19 10 | 3 19 0 | |
| September ... | 35 | 40 | 17 | 3 | 5 | 3 17 0 | 3 18 0 | 3 19 10 | 3 18 7 | |
| October ... | 23 | 61 | 13 | 2 | 1 | 3 16 9 | 3 18 8 | 3 19 2 | 3 18 4 | |
| November ... | 30 | 45 | 21 | 3 | 1 | 3 17 2 | 3 19 4 | 4 0 | 0 3 19 0 | |
| December ... | 33 | 38 | 21 | 6 | 2 | 3 19 4 | 4 0 | 4 0 | 5 4 0 | |
| 1937—January ... | 36 | 38 | 23 | 2 | 1 | 3 19 10 | 4 0 | 9 4 0 | 5 4 0 | |
| February ... | 22 | 58 | 15 | 3 | 2 | 4 1 2 | 4 1 5 | 4 0 | 10 4 2 | |
| March ... | 40 | 33 | 23 | 3 | 1 | 4 0 10 | 4 1 5 | 4 0 | 7 4 1 | |
| At 15th April ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 17 8 | 3 18 10 | 3 19 8 | 3 18 10 | |

* Where two rates of interest are shown in the legal instrument, the lower rate being consequent on payment within a specified period, this rate is adopted for the purposes of the above table.

20. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

(Registered under Real Property Act and Registration of Deeds Act.)

| Month. | Consideration of Sales. | | | | | Amount of Mortgages.* | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-----------------------|---------|--------|---------|-------|
| | 1933. | 1934. | 1935. | 1936. | 1937. | 1933. | 1934. † | 1935. | 1936. † | 1937. |
| Thousand £. | | | | | | | | | | |
| January ... | 1,244 | 1,398 | 1,727 | 2,153 | 2,954 | 726 | 1,320 | 1,246 | 1,241 | 1,861 |
| February ... | 1,013 | 1,679 | 2,205 | 2,564 | 2,596 | 792 | 1,461 | 1,341 | 1,200 | 1,688 |
| March ... | 1,248 | 1,844 | 2,201 | 3,090 | 2,992 | 674 | 1,302 | 1,341 | 3,030 | 2,134 |
| April ... | 947 | 1,469 | 1,828 | 3,033 | ... | 657 | 981 | 1,160 | 1,389 | ... |
| May ... | 1,437 | 1,233 | 2,518 | 2,317 | ... | 693 | 971 | 1,723 | 1,376 | ... |
| June ... | 1,073 | 2,134 | 2,163 | 2,830 | ... | 785 | 1,409 | 1,572 | 1,756 | ... |
| July ... | 1,305 | 3,331 | 2,451 | 3,288 | ... | 896 | 1,521 | 1,363 | 1,668 | ... |
| August ... | 1,412 | 2,442 | 2,041 | 2,787 | ... | 1,117 | 1,061 | 1,121 | 1,686 | ... |
| September ... | 1,014 | 1,485 | 2,248 | 2,815 | ... | 609 | 1,594 | 1,634 | 1,563 | ... |
| October ... | 1,661 | 1,717 | 2,158 | 2,508 | ... | 838 | 1,088 | 1,361 | 2,270 | ... |
| November ... | 1,512 | 2,733 | 2,475 | 3,212 | ... | 761 | 1,177 | 1,133 | 1,504 | ... |
| December ... | 1,329 | 2,025 | 2,075 | 2,940 | ... | 1,057 | 1,610 | 1,336 | 1,831 | ... |
| Year ... | 15,195 | 23,490 | 26,090 | 33,546 | ... | 9,605 | 15,488† | 16,531 | 20,511† | ... |
| Three Months ended 31st March | 3,505 | 4,921 | 6,133 | 7,807 | 8,542 | 2,192 | 4,083 | 4,128 | 5,471 | 5,683 |

* Including new mortgages and renewals as registered.

† Totals for months are approximate and aggregate differs slightly from annual total.

The average monthly transactions for period 1925-1929 were:—Sales, £4,619,000; and Mortgages, £4,042,000.

NOTE.—Mortgages and liens in some instances secure fluctuating advances, the amount of which is not recorded in the legal instruments. The amounts shown relate substantially to mortgages of fixed amounts for fixed periods, and exclude fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage. Mortgages providing collateral security of subsisting mortgages are included.

In the three months ended 31st March, 1937, mortgages, exclusive of those providing collateral security, amounted to £4,296,000, as compared with £4,592,000 and £3,643,000 in the corresponding period of 1936 and 1935 respectively.

21. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

(Registered under Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Act.)

| | Month of March. | | | Three Months ended 31st March. | | |
|----------|-----------------|---------|---------|--------------------------------|---------|---------|
| | Crops. | | Wool. | Livestock. | | |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| 1935 ... | 303,039 | 328,524 | 153,429 | 1,051,136 | 869,980 | 353,699 |
| 1936 ... | 188,517 | 444,986 | 229,732 | 885,075 | 945,579 | 433,407 |
| 1937 ... | 238,861 | 333,963 | 145,900 | 674,849 | 805,362 | 417,555 |

See note under Table 20.

SECTION E.—GENERAL.

22. INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT—N.S.W.

After comprehensive analysis of Census data, the returns of private employers accompanying remittances of wages tax, and returns of Government employment, the following indexes have been compiled covering total employment and unemployment in New South Wales:—

| Middle of Month. | Proportion of all who are dependent on and available for employment— | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|-------------|-----------|-------------|---|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| | (a) Including full-time equivalent of part-time relief workers. | | | | (b) Excluding full-time equivalent of part-time relief workers. | | | |
| | Employed. | Unemployed. | Employed. | Unemployed. | Employed. | Unemployed. | Employed. | Unemployed. |
| Census of 30th June, 1933 | ... | ... | 74·4 | 25·6 | 73·5 | 26·5 | | |
| 1935—February | ... | ... | 84·2 | 15·8 | 81·9 | 18·1 | | |
| March | ... | ... | 84·9 | 15·1 | 82·4 | 17·6 | | |
| 1936—February | ... | ... | 88·6 | 11·4 | 86·4 | 13·6 | | |
| March | ... | ... | 89·8 | 10·2 | 87·6 | 12·4 | | |
| 1937—February (Revised) | ... | ... | 93·3 | 6·7 | 91·8 | 8·2 | | |
| March | ... | ... | 93·2 | 6·8 | 91·9 | 8·1 | | |

The indexes have been adjusted to allow for an estimated increase of 1·2 per cent. per annum in the number of persons dependent on employment, but no adjustment is made for seasonal variation. At the Census, 15,142 persons dependent on employment returned themselves as unemployed by reason of illness, accident, etc., or "voluntarily." This number, representing 1·8 per cent. of all persons dependent on employment, is excluded from the above indexes, which relate to percentages of available wage earners employed and unemployed.

The approximate number of persons in private employment was 478,000 in June, 1933, 519,000 in June, 1934, 567,000 in June, 1935, 614,000 in June, 1936, and 644,000 in March, 1937.

Employment in Factories—The numbers of employees in 98 of the larger factories of the State (including the 42 shown in Table 6) were as follow:—

| Middle of Month. | 1931. | 1932. | 1933. | 1934. | 1935. | 1936. | Middle of Month. | 1932. | 1933. | 1934. | 1935. | 1936. | 1937. |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | | | | | | Hundreds. | | | | | | |
| July | 324 | 361 | 392 | 454 | 495 | 551 | January | 344 | 382 | 413* | 463 | 520 | 558 |
| August | 321 | 374 | 399 | 450* | 497 | 552 | February | 349 | 398 | 425 | 476 | 503* | 572 |
| September | 325 | 384 | 408 | 456 | 504 | 551 | March | 354 | 401 | 440 | 487 | 512* | ... |
| October | 334 | 384 | 421 | 476 | 511 | 559 | April | 360 | 399 | 444 | 493 | 533 | ... |
| November | 345 | 393 | 428 | 478 | 520 | 561 | May | 355 | 399 | 451 | 496 | 543 | ... |
| December | 344 | 389 | 416 | 472 | 519 | 556 | June | 358 | 393 | 451 | 497 | 545 | ... |

* Affected by an industrial dispute.

23. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and the group averages are the means of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. There is no base period as the index represents the ratio of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values; adjustment being made where capital is written off or bonus shares issued.

| Month. | 23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies. | 10 Retail Companies. | 8 Public Utility Companies. | 5 Pastoral and Finance Companies. | 5 Insurance Companies. | Total* Companies 75. | 34 Active Shares included in foregoing. |
|-------------|--|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---|
| April, 1929 | 179·3 | 183·8 | 129·4 | 174·1 | 243·5 | 174·4 | 172·6 |
| Sept., 1931 | 72·3 | 60·2 | 87·9 | 75·2 | 121·3 | 74·4 | 77·2 |
| 1936 Mar. | 185·8 | 176·0 | 182·6 | 146·7 | 272·4 | 172·0 | 180·6 |
| Aug. | 195·3 | 196·2 | 175·8 | 148·0 | 278·4 | 178·0 | 186·2 |
| Sept. | 198·2 | 198·3 | 175·8 | 151·1 | 278·2 | 179·2 | 187·0 |
| Oct. | 202·3 | 199·7 | 179·1 | 150·2 | 285·9 | 182·0 | 190·5 |
| Nov. | 207·9 | 200·1 | 178·2 | 158·6 | 288·2 | 186·1 | 194·2 |
| Dec. | 204·6 | 200·6 | 175·1 | 157·8 | 284·6 | 184·5 | 191·6 |
| 1937 Jan. | 210·1 | 202·4 | 179·6 | 166·2 | 285·0 | 188·7 | 197·5 |
| Feb. | 213·8 | 203·4 | 182·1 | 168·8 | 284·6 | 190·4 | 200·1 |
| Mar. | 213·8 | 203·8 | 181·0 | 169·2 | 281·2 | 190·4 | 200·5 |

* Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies.

§ The highest point of the index prior to the slump, was reached in April,

1929 and the lowest in September, 1931.

24. CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

Index of Monthly Sales of Gas and Electricity (Sydney).

(Based on number of units each equal to 3,412 British Thermal Units.)

| Month. | Average, 1929 to 1931. | 1929. | 1930. | 1931. | 1932. | 1933. | 1934. | 1935. | 1936. | 1937. |
|------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| January | 100 | 103.1 | 101.3 | 95.6 | 92.9 | 97.9 | 99.6 | 105.0 | 110.4 | 114.5 |
| February | 100 | 104.4 | 98.1 | 97.4 | 94.9 | 97.2 | 99.9 | 104.2 | 111.7 | 115.4 |
| March | 100 | 101.8 | 101.1 | 97.1 | 95.2 | 97.6 | 99.0 | 104.8 | 110.8 | 115.2 |
| April | 100 | 103.6 | 100.4 | 96.0 | 95.6 | 96.1 | 100.8 | 105.0 | 110.5 | |
| May | 100 | 105.5 | 100.0 | 94.4 | 95.1 | 96.9 | 100.0 | 106.9 | 109.9 | |
| June | 100 | 103.5 | 99.9 | 96.6 | 98.7 | 96.7 | 102.8 | 109.4 | 114.5 | |
| July | 100 | 105.2 | 98.7 | 96.0 | 96.7 | 96.1 | 100.5 | 108.4 | 111.7 | |
| August | 100 | 106.1 | 99.8 | 94.0 | 97.3 | 100.7 | 103.3 | 108.0 | 107.4 | |
| September | 100 | 108.5 | 97.9 | 93.6 | 96.9 | 98.6 | 101.2 | 109.9 | 113.4 | |
| October | 100 | 109.3 | 97.2 | 93.4 | 96.5 | 98.8 | 103.9 | 109.2 | 112.7 | |
| November | 100 | 109.3 | 96.1 | 94.6 | 97.2 | 103.0 | 104.4 | 112.1 | 115.9 | |
| December | 100 | 104.3 | 98.3 | 97.3 | 99.0 | 100.8 | 106.3 | 112.7 | 116.4 | |
| Average (12 months) | 100 | 105.4 | 99.1 | 95.5 | 96.3 | 98.4 | 101.8 | 108.0 | 112.1 | |

25. INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES

(SYDNEY).

Average for year 1911=100 in all cases. Australian Currency.

| Period. | Wool. | Wheat. | Butter (Local Sales). | Non- Rural. | 100 Com- modities Average. | Average Rates of Exchange.‡ | | | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Australia on London. | London on New York. | London on Paris. | Australia on New York. | Australia on Paris. | 100 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 1911* | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 1929* | 162 | 140 | 204 | 184 | 186 | 102 | 100 | 102 | 102 | 102 |
| 1930* | 109 | 110 | 172 | 178 | 170 | 106 | 100 | 106 | 106 | 105 |
| 1931* | 105 | 70 | 154 | 180 | 155 | 128 | 107 | 107 | 140 | 137 |
| 1932* | 96 | 88 | 140 | 177 | 152 | 125 | 139 | 139 | 174 | 172 |
| 1933* | 127 | 82 | 124 | 172 | 151 | 125 | 115 | 147 | 143 | 181 |
| 1934* | 147 | 77 | 133 | 167 | 150 | 125 | 97 | 162 | 120 | 201 |
| 1935* | 128 | 92 | 142 | 165 | 153 | 125 | 99 | 167 | 124 | 208 |
| 1936* | 168 | 120 | 142 | 165 | 156 | 125 | 98 | 150 | 122 | 186 |
| 1936—January | 164 | 108 | 142 | 165 | 159 | 125 | 98 | 166 | 122 | 207 |
| February | 169 | 103 | 142 | 165 | 157 | 125 | 97 | 166 | 121 | 207 |
| March | 172 | 104 | 142 | 165 | 154 | 125 | 98 | 166 | 122 | 207 |
| April | 172 | 106 | 142 | 165 | 152 | 125 | 98 | 166 | 123 | 206 |
| May | 171 | 105 | 142 | 165 | 152 | 125 | 98 | 165 | 122 | 205 |
| June | 154 | 102 | 142 | 166 | 155 | 125 | 97 | 163 | 121 | 201 |
| July | 156 | 113 | 142 | 165 | 156 | 125 | 97 | 164 | 121 | 204 |
| August | 159 | 133 | 142 | 165 | 157 | 125 | 97 | 163 | 121 | 203 |
| September | 154 | 133 | 142 | 164 | 156 | 125 | 97 | 162 | 120 | 202 |
| October | 165 | 140 | 142 | 165 | 156 | 125 | 99 | 118 | 124 | 147 |
| November | 191 | 138 | 142 | 166 | 159 | 125 | 100 | 118 | 124 | 147 |
| December | 195 | 152 | 142 | 166 | 163 | 125 | 99 | 118 | 124 | 147 |
| 1937—January | 212 | 146 | 142 | 168 | 165 | 125 | 99 | 118 | 124 | 147 |
| February | 202 | 144 | 142 | 169 | 163† | 125 | 99 | 118 | 124 | 147 |
| March | 209 | 154 | 142 | 171 | 165 | 125 | 100 | 117 | 124 | 146 |
| At 17th April | 224 | 148 | 142 | ... | ... | 125 | 99 | 113 | 123 | 141 |

* Average for year. † Approximate; the above table expresses in the form of an index the amount of currency of the country first mentioned required to buy a fixed quantity of the second named country's currency. ‡ Revised.

|| Includes only those (non-rural) primary, manufactured and imported commodities which are included in the index for 100 commodities. Highly manufactured articles are not included. The individual items are listed on pages 488 and 489 of the "Official Year Book of New South Wales" for 1920.

26. OVERSEA WHOLESALE PRICE LEVELS.

| | 1931 | 1936. | | | | | | | | | | 1937. | | |
|--|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Sept. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. |
| Great Britain—Board of Trade (1930 = 100)... | 84.2 | 91.7 | 91.9 | 91.9 | 92.6 | 93.6 | 95.2 | 96.1 | 97.6 | 98.3 | 100.8 | 102.9 | 103.9 | 107.3 |
| United States—Irving Fisher (1926 = 100) ... | 68.7 | 82.6 | 82.5 | 81.1 | 82.3 | 83.5 | 84.0 | 84.1 | 84.1 | 85.6 | 87.4 | 90.4 | 90.8 | 92.0* |

Gold standard suspended by Great Britain 21st September, 1931.

* Two weeks.

27. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Spot Prices of Metals (London Exchange, Prices in Sterling).

| Date. | Gold (Fine). | | | Silver (Standard). | | Lead.† | | Spelter.† | | Tin (Standard). | | Copper (Standard). | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|----|----|--------------------|------|----------|----|-----------|----|-----------------|----|--------------------|----|----|
| | per oz. | | | per oz. | | per ton. | | per ton. | | per ton. | | per ton. | | |
| Average, 1927-29 ... | 4 | 4 | II | 2 | 1.75 | 22 | 18 | II | 26 | 4 | 4 | 240 | 1 | 8 |
| September, 1931 ... | 4 | II | 3 | I | 2.10 | II | 19 | 7 | II | 16 | 4 | 117 | 17 | 10 |
| 1936. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| September ... | 6 | 18 | 0 | I | 7.58 | 17 | 19 | 10 | 14 | 0 | 8 | 194 | 17 | 7 |
| October ... | 7 | 1 | II | I | 7.98 | 18 | 8 | 3 | 14 | 13 | II | 201 | 7 | 3 |
| November ... | 7 | 2 | 3 | I | 9.05 | 21 | 14 | 2 | 16 | 8 | 6 | 231 | 0 | II |
| December ... | 7 | 1 | 8 | I | 9.24 | 25 | 10 | 8 | 18 | 1 | 0 | 232 | 5 | I |
| 1937. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January ... | 7 | 1 | 8 | I | 8.73 | 27 | 4 | 3 | 21 | 4 | 4 | 229 | 9 | 10 |
| February ... | 7 | 2 | I | I | 8.08 | 28 | 6 | 6 | 25 | 4 | 5 | 233 | 19 | 8 |
| March ... | 7 | 2 | 4 | I | 8.68 | 33 | 0 | I | 33 | 5 | II | 283 | 5 | 7 |
| April (1st to 17th) ... | 7 | 1 | 9 | I | 9.00 | 27 | 7 | 2 | 28 | 6 | 2 | 277 | 10 | 5 |

† Mean of spot and forward quotations.

28. SUMMARY.

The following Table provides some indication of trends in 1936 and 1937, in respect of the principal activities for which it is possible to indicate general trends by monthly figures:—

| Refer to Table No. ... | 18 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 11 | 24 | 12 |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|------------------|
| Month. | Index of Bank Clearings. | Value of Goods sold by certain Factories. | Quantity of Coal Hauled by Railways. | Value of City and Suburban Building Permits. | Number of Passenger Journeys on Railways. | Index of Quantity of Gas and Electricity Consumed. | Tramway Revenue. |
| 1936. | | | | | | | |
| June ... | 87 | £ (b) | tons (a) | £ (a) | (c) | | £ (a) |
| July ... | 85 | 250 | 597 | 1,036 | 150 | 114.5 | 268 |
| August ... | 86 | 283 | 665 | 974 | 140 | 111.7 | 278 |
| September ... | 87 | 266 | 578 | 865 | 152 | 107.4 | 271 |
| October ... | 91 | 276 | 583 | 1,000 | 142 | 113.4 | 279 |
| November ... | 96 | 298 | 587 | 818 | 149 | 112.7 | 289 |
| December ... | 99 | 302 | 588 | 748 | 152 | 115.9 | 274 |
| | 307 | 540 | 832 | 147 | 116.4 | 303 | |
| 1937. | | | | | | | |
| January ... | 101 | 262 | 563 | 658 | 146 | 114.5 | 317 |
| February ... | 101 | 281 | 545 | 571 | 137 | 115.4 | 269 |
| March ... | 98 | ... | 590 | 720 | ... | 115.2 | 305 |

(a) Thousands. (b) Ten thousands. (c) Hundred thousands.

The general position in regard to primary industries might be gauged by reference to tables 1 to 4, and to the prices shown in the graph on page 1, and in table 25.

The population of N.S.W. at 31st December, 1936, was 2,681,736 or 39 per cent. of the total population of Australia.

NOTICE.

This summary is issued as soon as practicable after the 20th of each month. The subscription for twelve months is 3s. (posted), payable to the Government Printer, Phillip-street, Sydney, or 3d. per single copy at the Government Printing Office. This charge applies in all cases, except exchanges and Government Departments.

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The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics and Economics, 61 Hunter-street, Sydney.

27th April, 1937.